Charles Reed
August 16, 2005

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
North Coast Region

Order No.R1-2004-0009
NPDES PERMIT NO. CA0023078
I.D. No. 1B84083OMEN

WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS
(Revised on October 12, 2005)

FOR

FORT BRAGG MUNICIPAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 1
WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY
Mendocino County

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, North Coast Region (hereinafter Regional Water Board), finds that:

1. The Fort Bragg Municipal Improvement District No. 1 (hereinafter Permittee or District) submitted a Report of Waste Discharge dated January 20, 2000, and applied for renewal of its Permit to discharge treated municipal wastewater under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) from the City of Fort Bragg wastewater treatment facility (WWTF). Supplemental information to complete filing of the application was submitted on February 29, 2000, March 7, 2000, April 4, 2000, September 15, 2000, October 2, 2000, October 13, 2000, and October 26, 2000. These Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) regulate the Fort Bragg municipal wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal systems. The term of this Permit is five years.

2. The Permittee owns and operates the wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal facilities that serve a population of approximately 6,500 in the City of Fort Bragg and adjacent unincorporated areas. The treatment facilities are located in Section 12, T18N, R18W, MDB&M, on the Fort Bragg quadrangle as shown in Attachment "A" incorporated herein and made a part of this Order.

3. The Fort Bragg Municipal Improvement District No. 1 was formed in 1969 to comply with new requirements for the discharge of municipal wastewater to waters of the state. The District is bounded on the north by MacKerricher State Park and by South Harbor Drive to the south as shown in Attachment "B" of this Order. Construction of the original Fort Bragg WWTF was completed in 1971 and consisted of a primary clarifier, a trickling filter, and a chlorine disinfection unit. Final discharge of primary treated wastewater was accomplished through an ocean outfall. In 1979, the Permittee completed construction of a second trickling filter and a secondary clarifier to upgrade its treatment facilities to meet secondary treatment standards. The upgrade was funded by a Clean Water Act (CWA) Municipal Wastewater Treatment Construction Grant.

4. The wastewater collection system consists of approximately 30 miles of sanitary sewers. The majority of the system's sewer mains were installed prior to 1960, with a high percentage of collection mains constructed between 1919 and 1945. The existing wastewater collection system consists of six pump stations, three constructed in 1970, one in 1975, one in 1987 and the last in 1989. The collection

facilities have a history of sanitary sewer overflows and excessive inflow and infiltration (I/I) that is consistent with an aging collection system.

5. The current waste treatment facilities include grit removal, comminution, primary clarification, biological secondary treatment utilizing two-stage biofiltration, chemical coagulation and secondary clarification. ~~and disinfection~~. The treated wastewater is disinfected using chlorine gas and dechlorinated with sulfur dioxide prior to discharge to the Pacific Ocean. The outfall structure is located approximately 650 feet from shore at 39° 26' 20" North, 123° 48' 48" West and is designed to produce 50:1 initial dilution at peak flow conditions to the Pacific Ocean.

6. Biosolids generated during the treatment process are collected, dewatered in a belt press and stored in sludge bins prior to disposal at an appropriately permitted site. From 1996 to 2001, the Permittee land-applied biosolids at the H-H Ranch in Point Arena. Biosolids and other collected screenings, sludges, and solids removed from liquid wastes are currently disposed of at a legal point of disposal. Solids Disposal Provisions are included in Section F of this Permit.

7. The WWTF was originally designed to treat an average dry weather flow (ADWF) of 1.0 million gallons of wastewater per day (mgd). With the construction of the two-stage biofilter in 1979, the secondary treatment capacity of the WWTF was increased to 2.2 mgd. The average annual dry weather flow from 1996 through 2000, based on the average of the reported lowest consecutive 30-day mean daily flows over the time period, has increased from 0.23 mgd in 1996 to 0.56 mgd through June 2003. The average annual dry weather flow for 2000 was 0.59 mgd and 0.58 mgd for 2001. The peak average daily wet weather flow reported for the period 1996-2002 was 5.8 mgd.

8. The Permittee has approved a project to construct an effluent sand filter to comply with Cease and Desist Order No. R1-2003-0067 (Order No. R1-2003-0067), which required the Permittee to construct treatment improvements to bring the Permittee into compliance with its existing WDRs. The approved project consists of the construction of an effluent sand filter to enhance the secondary treatment process and a second anaerobic digester. The City of Fort Bragg Planning Commission adopted a Negative Declaration for the project on February 13, 2002.

9. On October 26, 2004, the Discharger submitted a written request that Cease and Desist Order No. R1-2003-0067 be rescinded based on its finding that the chemical addition system installed in 2000 satisfies the requirements of the Order No. R1-2003-0067 because the system had improved the WWTF's effluent quality to the extent that the discharge consistently meets permit conditions. The Permittee submitted additional information on February 11, 2005 describing in detail the chemical addition system, including specific information regarding process control, monitoring, and maintenance, and indicated the chemical addition system is a permanent component of its wastewater treatment system and is continuously operated and maintained to consistently meet effluent limitations contained in its NPDES permit.

10. At a Public Hearing on May 3, 2005, Regional Water Board rescinded Order No. R1-2003-0067 based on its finding that the Permittee's chemical addition system satisfied the Order's requirements by bringing the discharge into compliance with the updated permit, Order No. R1-2004-0009.

11. The Permittee was previously governed by Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 95-47, adopted by the Regional Water Board on June 22, 1995.